



**TESTIMONY FOR SB0690
PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT - INSPECTION OF RECORDS FROM BODY-WORN
DIGITAL RECORDING DEVICES**

Bill Sponsor: Senator Sydnor

Committee: Judicial Proceedings

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Cecilia Plante, co-chair

Position: **FAVORABLE**

I am submitting this testimony in favor of SB0690 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists, and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

Our members support the idea of police officers recording their actions. Those recordings are important to help solve crimes, provide support for testimony and are invaluable in showing what exactly happened when unfortunate situations occur and a member of the public is harmed.

However, there are times when the information on those videos should not be shared. When someone's life could be endangered by sharing the contents of a video, including victims of domestic violence, victims of sexual violence, or criminal neglect of a minor, these records should not be released.

This bill would prevent a custodian from releasing these records and the victim will be notified whenever there is a request for release. There are also provisions requiring the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission to create uniform standards to ensure that these records are not inadvertently released.

Our members believe that it is important to secure the privacy of these individuals. We support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.